



ACES46, Asian Studies: Religion, Identity, Politics and Society in Asia, 7.5 credits

*Asienstudier: Religion, identitet, politik och samhälle i Asien, 7,5
högskolepoäng*

Second Cycle / Avancerad nivå

Details of approval

The syllabus was approved by Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences on 2012-04-23 to be valid from 2012-01-16, spring semester 2012.

General Information

The course is offered as an elective course in the third semester of the Master of Science Programme (120 credits) in Asian Studies and can be followed as a single course in Asian Studies.

Language of instruction: English

The language of instruction and examination is English.

Main field of studies

Asian Studies

Depth of study relative to the degree requirements

A1N, Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements

Learning outcomes

On completion of the course, the student shall:

Knowledge and understanding

- demonstrate a good knowledge of religious expressions in their local and social contexts, and as part of broader trans-national and global processes.
- demonstrate knowledge about the theoretical framework of modernisation, globalisation, commodification and gender, and its impact on religion.
- demonstrate an understanding of religion as something in constant change, due to context, and not as a static tradition.

Competence and skills

- demonstrate the ability to apply a critical and comparative theoretical perspective on studies about religion in Asia.
- demonstrate the skill of academic writing.

Judgement and approach

- demonstrate the ability to critically and independently engage in analytical reasoning both verbally and in writing.
- demonstrate an awareness of religious developments and their impact on societies in Asia.

Course content

The course deals with broader religious developments in Asia, as well as with in-depth analyses of cases in East, South-East and South Asia. The course provides the students with overviews of contemporary religious developments in East, South-East and South Asia. It aims at exploring religions in constant change, as expressions of the time and place where they are observed, not as static traditions. Particular theoretical attention is paid to the impact on religion from modernisation, globalisation and commodification. Religion as an important part of power structures, including gender relations, is analysed.

The discussions focus on how individuals, groups and nations use religious traditions in multiple ways, for instance; as sources for identity, as inspiration for theoretical ideologies and in legitimizing practical political policies and strategies. Processes of revitalisation and innovation include religious influence on media, pop culture and consumer culture, as well as the emergence of new religious movements.

Seminars allow the students to focus on a geographical area or issue of their own choice.

Course design

The teaching is comprised of lectures, seminars (including a possibility to focus on a geographical area or issue of the student's own choice), film(s) and students' presentations. Attendance is mandatory in seminars and students' presentations, active participation is required.

Assessment

Assessment is based on the student's active participation in the seminars and paper assignments.

Attendance accounts for 10%, 1st assignment 20%, 2nd assignment 20%, 3rd assignment 20% and final exam 30% of the course grade.

An opportunity for re-examination will be offered after the end of the course. A second re-examination will be arranged at a later date.

Subcourses that are part of this course can be found in an appendix at the end of this document.

Grades

Marking scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A.

The grades awarded are A, B, C, D, E or Fail. The highest grade is A and the lowest passing grade is E. The grade for a non-passing result is Fail.

The student's performance is assessed with reference to the learning outcomes of the course. For the grade of E the student must show **acceptable** results. For the grade of D the student must show **satisfactory** results. For the grade of C the student must show **good** results. For the grade of B the student must show **very good** results. For the grade of A the student must show **excellent** results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown **unacceptable** results.

Course components such as attendance, active participation in seminars and discussions are exempted from the grading scale above. The grades awarded for such components are Pass or Fail. For the grade of Pass the student must show **acceptable** results. For the grade of Fail the student must have shown **unacceptable** results.

At the start of the course students are informed about the learning outcomes stated in the syllabus and about the grading scale and how it is applied in the course.

Entry requirements

Admitted to the Master of Science Programme in Asian Studies. Students who fulfill the general requirement of having a Bachelor's degree in the Social Sciences, Humanities, Economics or Law can take the course as a single course.

English language proficiency demonstrated in one of the following ways: IELTS score (Academic) of 6.5 or more (with none of the sections scoring less than 5.5), TOEFL score of 575 or more (internet based 90), Cambridge/Oxford - Advanced or Proficiency level, or having a Bachelor's degree from a university where English is the ONLY language of instruction, or having received a passing grade in English course B (Swedish secondary school).

Subcourses in ACES46, Asian Studies: Religion, Identity, Politics and Society in Asia

Applies from H12

1201 Religion: Identity Politics and Society in Asia, 7,5 hp
Grading scale: Fail, E, D, C, B, A